

IEN Technical Advisory Committee

April 6, 2011 (Approved by Committee, June 1, 2011)

The April 6, 2011 meeting of the IEN Technical Advisory Committee was held in the Lewis & Clark Room, LBJ Building, 650 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

ATTENDANCE

Members/Alternates Present:

Greg Zickau (Co-Chair), Office of the CIO
Jerry Reininger (Chair), Meridian School District
Brady Kraft, IEN
Jerry Piper, Cambridge Telephone Co.
Randy Gaines, ISU (via VTC)
Ann Joslin, ICFL
Chris Gibson, Jerome School District (via VTC)
Ryan Gravette, IDLA

Others Present:

Matthew Turner, ENA
Keith Murphy, Qwest
Mike Vance, ENA
Mike Byers, ENA
Mark Westcott, CWI
Bob Gibson, NIC (VTC)
Steve Rupple, NIC (VTC)
Steve Smith , NIC (VTC)
Garry Lough, IEN
Mike Costa, IEN
Sally Brevick, OCIO
Martin Bilbao, ENA
Don Hall, ENA
Joel Strickler, Qwest
Debra Stephenson-Padilla, IEN

Jerry Reininger moved to amend the agenda: Move Greg's update on "alternative providers" following approval of previous meeting minutes, and add Ann Joslin to the end of the agenda with an update on ENA and the Libraries.

Jerry Piper moved and Ryan Gravette seconded. Passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Ann Joslin moved and Brady Kraft seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 2, 2011; the motion passed unanimously.

ALTERNATIVE PROVIDERS

Greg reminded the committee that at the previous meeting, a wireless solution, with some caveats, had been approved for use in certain hard-to-reach districts. Syringa had signed a non-disclosure agreement with Qwest and it was hoped that this would lead to the opportunity for the IEN purchase services based on Ethernet, the preferred method of reaching the schools.

At this time there is no agreement in place. The Dept of Admin/IEN has a priority to serve the schools appropriately and ensure connections for the coming school year. Greg stated that the delay with the agreement was placing this priority in jeopardy and the state is now considering whether or not to

proceed with the TDM and wireless combination solution as discussed with IPRAC. This decision, if made, would not prevent Qwest and Syringa from continuing talks to allow the IEN access to Ethernet in those communities. Joel Strickler reported that the agreement was being held up by concerns over the SLA.

UPDATE FROM BRADY KRAFT

Brady reported that Cisco has purchased Tandberg, and he provided an update regarding potential equipment changes. Cisco and Polycom equipment is currently being evaluated for continuity and compatibility with existing equipment.

Brady also stated that the IEN is approaching the end of year 2, and as the budget stands, we are able to invest in infrastructure by purchasing a bridge. This bridge will enable the SDE, teacher-professional development providers, and other IEN users to connect to more than 3 locations for meetings and updates. The IEN is also bringing in a small content server which will enable them to evaluate recording meetings and classes for catch-up purposes. IEN will also purchase a software package for an event scheduler to be hosted by ENA. This will make it easier to find classes being shared over the IEN and to reserve resources to access the class.

UPDATE ON LAWSUIT

Greg reported that the lawsuit against the State, ENA, and Qwest has been dismissed "with prejudice". There was no evidence of wrong-doing. Still pending is the payment of fees and if there will be an appeal.

ENA/QWEST UPDATE

Joel reported that Qwest has continued focus on operational efficiencies; are ahead of connectivity schedule; Qwest has merged with Century Link as of April 1. The target date for complete brand transition is August 1.

Trouble-ticket Summary (Mike Vance) – network has been stable; not a lot of issues reported; outage time very low.

Bandwidth Utilization (Mike Vance) – there is a large uptake in usage expected in early summer once remaining Districts are transitioned.

ENA/LIBRARIES UPDATE

Ann Joslin reported that as part of the broadband BTOP project and as a result of new E-rate rules, about 13 public libraries have been identified that could make use of IEN connectivity outside of school hours. These libraries have low, expensive, or uneven bandwidth. An "extension cord" paid for by BTOP money could be created between the local school and public library. Commission for Libraries is working with ENA in this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Stephenson-Padilla